



Research Partnership Opportunities North Carolina Department of Justice

May 2021

Purpose: The [North Carolina Office of Strategic Partnerships](#) facilitates research to improve policy and program operations for the benefit of all North Carolinians. Below are partnership opportunities with the **Task Force for Racial Equity in Criminal Justice (TREC)**, **NC Department of Justice (DOJ)**. TREC was established by Governor Roy Cooper in June 2020. The Task Force is led by Attorney General Josh Stein and NC Supreme Court Associate Justice Anita Earls and consists of twenty-four members from a wide range of backgrounds. The Task Force submitted its recommendations on December 14, 2020. Read the final report [here](#), the executive summary [here](#), and the recommendation chart [here](#).

One opportunity may lead to more than one project. See additional information below, including how to express interest.

	DOJ research questions/needs	Deliverable	Status of associated data	Relevant info or links	Timeframe (if known)
1	Study Racial Disparity in Protests (Recommendation #30) Are there racial disparities in how protests and demonstrations are policed in North Carolina?	Qualitative and quantitative analysis of racial disparities in how protests are policed, including communication between organizers and law enforcement, arrests made, and charging outcomes (specific jurisdiction or multiple jurisdictions).	Data lives with various entities (e.g., local law enforcement agencies, district attorneys' offices, etc.). Likely will require a data sharing agreement.	Model policy for facilitating peaceful demonstrations (Appendix A in report)	Final deliverable by December 2022.
2	Study of Race Measures (Recommendation #124) The Task Force recommends an analysis of the source, completeness, and validity of current race measures in public safety data systems and an exploration of approaches to address any identified limitations in these measures.	Recommend concrete changes to measurement of race and ethnicity in state-level entities. Develop guidelines for local entities (agencies, courts,	Data systems are public; analysis will be at system level.	Public safety data systems for review would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• NC Administrative Office of the Courts• NC jail data	Final deliverable by December 2021.

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<p>Pursuant to the findings from this analysis, <u>the Task Force will identify responsible state-level entities to implement reliable and valid race and ethnicity measures through approaches that are clear and consistent, that acknowledge the limitations of race measured through observation, and that consider and minimize potential harm on individuals asked to self-report race.</u> The state-level entities, which may include the NCAOC, will begin to implement changes to measurement of race and ethnicity within calendar year 2021. <u>In addition to required state-level measurement changes, the Task Force further recommends that a guideline for uniform measurement of race and ethnicity be developed and disseminated to local entities, such as police departments, sheriff's offices, and district attorney's offices to support their more widespread implementation.</u></p>	<p>etc.) to use for uniform measurement of race and ethnicity.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CJ LEADS <p><i>*Deep knowledge of NC's public safety data systems preferred but not required.</i></p>	
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Commitment Needed: The research needs above have different timelines; DOJ may decide to pursue a project at any time with one or more researchers. Some opportunities will be short-term (commitment of a few months or less); others will require longer commitments. Timeframe/deadlines for completing the projects above will be determined case by case.

Funding: Some projects may require funding. This will depend on the scope of the project, level of expertise needed, and other factors. Research partners, agency officials, and the Office of Strategic Partnerships can discuss funding details, including needs and potential sources, on a case-by-case basis.

Publication Policy: We are committed to open science best practices, including sharing results and distributing of materials needed to replicate. This includes academic and practitioner publishing and may also include interactive online materials, community forums, podcasts, and beyond as best fit for the relevant audiences.

Context: The NC Department of Justice is a Council of State agency of NC state government, which serves over 10 million residents across policy and programmatic domains. The NC Office of Strategic Partnerships is organizationally part of the NC Office of State Budget and Management (OSBM), which includes data-driven and evidence-based decision making among its priorities.

How to Express Your Interest: Please complete [this interest form](#). Have questions? Email partnerships@osbm.nc.gov. Depending on current needs and other considerations, it is possible that not all individuals who express interest will receive a reply.